

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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For: "Systems and Methods for Managing and Detecting Fraud in Image Databases used with Identification Documents"

Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 9, 2008

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 9, 2009, Applicants respond and amend the claims as follows:

Amended Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A computer-implemented system for issuing identification documents to one of a plurality of individuals, comprising:
 - a workstation, the workstation having a processor, a memory, an input device and a display;
 - a first database, the first database operatively connected to the workstation and storing a plurality of digitized images, each digitized image comprising a biometric image of an individual seeking an identification document
 - a first server in operable communication with the workstation and with the first database, the first server programmed to:
 - send, at a predetermined time, one or more digitized images of the individual from the first database to a biometric recognition system, the biometric recognition system in operable communication with a second database, the second database including biometric templates associated with a plurality of individuals whose images have been previously captured;

the biometric recognition system comparing, the digitized image of the individual to the plurality of individuals whose images have been previously captured;

the server being further programmed to:

(a) receive from the biometric recognition system, for each digitized image of the individual sent, an indicator, based on the biometric searching of the second database, as to whether the second database contains any images of individuals who may at least partially match the digitized image of the individual that was sent; and

(b) receive from the biometric recognition system a list of images of the individuals who may at least partially match the digitized image of the individual that was sent together with a score of each individual, the score indicating a score above a predetermined threshold relating to the degree of matching to the individual searching an identification document;

the workstation being configured to permit a user to review the indicator and the scores of individuals from the biometric recognition system and to make a determination as to whether the individual is authorized to be issued an identification document or to keep an identification document already in the individual's possession.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the digitized image is at least one of a facial, fingerprint, thumbprint, and iris image.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the identification document is a driver's license.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the biometric recognition system is programmed to create a biometric template based on the digitized image received from the first server and to use that biometric template to search the second database.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server is programmed to create a biometric template and provide that template to the biometric recognition system.
6. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the indicator comprises a list of further data associated with the individuals whose images at least partially resemble matches the digitized image that was sent.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6 further comprising a third database in operable communication with the workstation, the third database storing at least one of images and non-image data associated with each biometric template in the second database, wherein

the workstation is configured to be able to retrieve information from the third database upon request and display it to a user.

8. (Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the indicator comprises is displayed on a user interface of the display, the user interface retrieving from the third database the images of at least a portion of the images of individuals that the biometric recognition system has determined may at least partially resemble the digitized image that was sent.
9. (Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein each image accessible to the workstation system is associated with at least one of additional biometric data and demographic information and wherein the user interface is operable to permit a user to do at least one of the following functions:

visually compare the digitized image that was sent directly to an image of an individual whose data was returned in the indicator by the facial biometric recognition search system;

visually compare demographic information associated with the individual whose digitized image was sent directly to demographic information of an individual whose data was returned in the indicator by the faeial biometric recognition search system;

visually compare the other biometric information associated with the digitized image that was sent to other biometric information associated with an individual whose data was returned in the indicator by the facial biometric recognition search system;

create a new biometric template of the digitized image that was sent and conduct a new search of the biometric recognition search system using the new biometric template;

perform a re-alignment of the digitized image and use the re-alignment data to conduct a new search of the biometric recognition search system;

capture a new image of the individual whose digitized image was sent;

adding a notification to a record associated with at least one of the digitized image that was sent and the data that was returned in the indicator by the biometric recognition search system, the notification providing an alert that there may be a problem with the record; and

selecting at least one of the images of an individual whose data was returned in the indicator by the facial biometric recognition search system and sending that image to the biometric recognition search system to run a search on that image.